cle) from its Mahendragiri Centre at Nagarcoil in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the cost involved; and

(c) whether there is any plan to make use of the same for defence, keeping in mind the threats posed by Pakistan, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) ISRO has recently conducted a successful test of the earth storable propellant engine for the strap-on stage of Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) and not a cryogenic engine.

(b) This test is part of the development tests planned for the GSLV programme. The Cost of the consumables during the test is about Rs. 125.00 lakhs.

(c) Indian space programme is meant for peaceful uses only.

Group D Post Vacancies in AIIMS

2384. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a good number of vacancies in various categories in group D posts have been lying vacant which are to be filled up through direct recruitment in All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that candidates sponsored by the Employment Exchanges in the categories of Khallasi, Nursing Attendant and other similar categories have been awaiting in queue for their interviews/selection since long; and

(c) if so, upto which specific date all selection formalities will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) and (c) Nominations for the posts of Hospital Attendant, Clearner and Khallasi have been received from the Employment Exchange and are under process for selection. It is expected that selection process may be completed by the end of October, 1995. Nominations for some other categories of posts are awaited from Employment Exchange.

Extension of Deputation Period

2385. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the details of the procedure followed while extending the period of delutationist-officers by the Instrumentalities of the Government of India of the ranks of Deputy Secretary and above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): The posts at the level of Deputy Secretary and above in various Ministries/Departments are filled up under the Central Staffing Scheme. Normally, extension of period of tenure of an officer appointed under the Central Staffing Scheme is not allowed. However, in exceptional cases, depending upon the merit of each case, extension of tenure, is considered with the approval of the appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

Funds provided to up Under Malaria Eradication Programme

2386. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:
SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the funds provided to UP during the year 1993-94 under National Malaria Eradication Programme?